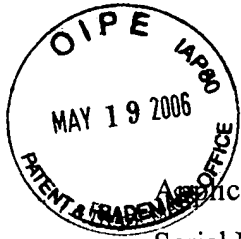


Date of Deposit: May 17, 2006



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Ellington et al.  
Serial No.: 09/666,870 Examiner: Jon D. Epperson  
Filing Date: September 20, 2000 Art Unit: 1639  
Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR IDENTIFYING  
ALLOSTERICALLY REGULATED RIBOZYMES

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**COMMUNICATION**

In response to the Notice of Appeal filed October 18, 2005 and in further response to the Final Office Action mailed April 18, 2005 in the above-identified application, Applicants have on this date filed a continuation application. Applicants file herewith a Petition for a Five-Month Extension of Time, along with a check in the amount of \$2,160.00 to cover the required fee. Applicants previously submitted the Notice of Appeal with a three-month extension of time on October 18, 2005 in response to the April 18, 2005 Final Office Action. Thus, with the five-month extension, this paper is due on or before May 18, 2006.

Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 23239-301B).

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (617) 542-6000, Boston, Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ivor R. Elrifi* *By Na 45,409*

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Dated: May 17, 2006